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## Standards Australia welcomes new mandatory safety standards for prams and strollers

Standards Australia has welcomed the introduction of mandatory safety standards for prams and strollers that will improve safety for children and provide parents with greater confidence.

The new mandatory standards are based on the voluntary Australian/New Zealand Standard 2088, Prams and strollers—safety requirements.

Under the new rules all new prams and strollers sold in Australia from July 1 must come with a mandatory red footbrake and wrist tether strap.

The safety standards are designed to ensure the breaking devices are more visible to users and tether straps are to safeguard against parents forgetting to apply the brakes.

Mr John Tucker, CEO Standards Australia, said that any measures to improve pram safety are welcome.

“These new standards will go some way to addressing the known safety hazards of prams and strollers and so reduce the associated risk of injury to infants,” Mr Tucker said.

It will be illegal to sell prams without the new features From July 1 when the new standards come into force.

Anyone supplying prams and strollers including manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers, importers, hirers, retailers and second-hand dealers are responsible for ensuring they comply with the mandatory standard.

Some 740,000 prams and strollers are sold in Australia each year. None are produced in Australia. Prices range from around \$50 for a simple stroller to over \$2000 for a top-of-the-range combination pram-stroller.

Penalties under the Trade Practices Act 1974 for failure to comply with the new standards can range from fines of up to \$1.1 million for corporations and \$220 000 for individuals.

The new standards have the support of the leading industry body, the Infant and Nursery Product Association of Australia.

According to the Association while some suppliers would have to retrofit their stock, most had known about the changes for 12 months and were prepared. The costs were to be absorbed by the suppliers.

Further information on the new standards is available by contacting the **ACCC Infocentre** on **1300 302 502** or on online at [www.accc.gov.au](http://www.accc.gov.au)

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